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(54) Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates generally to a method for modulating the sensation of satiety perception and to agents useful for same. Such agents are useful in modulating, controlling or otherwise affecting inter alia obesity, anorexia, weight maintenance, metabolic energy levels and/or inflammatory conditions in a subject. More particularly, the present invention identifies molecules which interact with ion channels thereby modulating the perception of satiety. The present invention contemplates, therefore, a method for modulating the perception of gastric distension by the administration of agents which control the activation or inhibition of mechanoreceptors. The present invention further provides compositions comprising these agents and methods of treatment using same. In a particular embodiment, the present invention permits modulation of perception of gastric distension by the administration of agents which control the activation of mechanoreceptors associated with mechanical stretch.